

New D.C. Biweekly Takes on Press

By Karlyn Barker

Washington Post Staff Writer

A newspaper that promises to be radical in content but not rhetoric was introduced here last week. It includes a journalism review section unique here to that publication.

Called The Colonial Times, it will be a biweekly and will sell for 25 cents.

It is the product of five people, all with journalism experience, who wanted to "fill the void" between the underground Quicksilver Times and the city's main daily newspapers.

"We're going to put out a paper that covers the things people want to read, which the establishment press and the underground papers don't cover," said William Hobbs, 29, who said he once was editor of two Fairfax County newspapers.

Robert Hinton, 29, a former reporter for the Baltimore Sun and Washington Post, said the Colonial Times would resemble the Phoenix in Boston, or New York's Village Voice.

Other staff members include Malcolm Kovacs, 23, a free-lance writer who was formerly associate director of the Washington Urban Coalition; Dorothy McGhee, 27, a former reporter for the D.C. Gazette and a Runaway House staff counselor, and David Riley, 23, a former managing editor of the Vicksburg Citizens Appeal.

The staff borrowed \$500 to

help pay the \$770 printing costs of 20,000 copies, which are being distributed free for the first issue in shops and on the streets.

The first issue was put together using the production facilities of Off Our Backs, the women's liberation newspaper.

An introductory essay on The Washington Post, titled "Post Toasties," is highly critical of the newspapers influence on the community. Because of this influence, the article said, The Post "will receive more than its share of attention." But the city's two other daily papers, as well as the broadcast media, will also be examined.

"The Post is a public institution," said Riley, "and, like the government, it needs to be scrutinized."

"Maybe we'll find a Daniel Ellsberg on The Post," said Hobbs. "We want to cover the media from the inside and the outside."